

CLAIMS

1. A method of processing data received from a submission interface and hosted at a client computing entity within a network, which data includes at least an interface identifier, a client identifier and client selection data, the method comprising the steps of:
 - generating an identifier for a session record of state for the client, the session record identifier being mapped to the client identifier;
 - selecting, on the basis of the interface identifier, a set of rules for transforming the client selection data, and implementing the selected rules to transform the client selection data; and
 - incorporating the transformed client selection data within the session record to which the transformed client selection data relates using at least one of the client identifier and the session record identifier to correlate the transformed client data with the session record.
2. A method according to claim 2 wherein the submission interface includes at least one control which maps to a rule of the aforesaid set of rules.
3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of generating, from the session record, a further submission interface, and sending the further submission interface to the client.
4. A method according to claim 3 further comprising the step of generating, from the session record, a further set of rules for transformation of further client selection data from the further submission interface.
5. A method according to claim 3 further comprising the step of receiving further client selection data from the further submission interface, and further updating the session record following transformation of the further client selection data.
6. A method according to claim 5 wherein a further client identifier accompanying the further client selection data is different to the client identifier accompanying the client original client selection data.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the session record identifier is used to correlate the transformed further client selection data with the session record.
- 5 8. A method of generating an XML document reflecting the state of a client's interaction with a server comprising the steps of:
 - dispatching to the client a submission interface with at least one control;
 - mapping an identifier for the submission interface to a set of rules for transforming client selection data generated by means of the at least one control from
 - 10 the submission interface;
 - upon receipt of the client selection data, identifying the set of rules which maps to the submission interface identifier;
 - applying the identified set of rules transform the client selection data; and
 - recording transformed client selection data to generate the aforesaid document.
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9. A method according to claim 8 further comprising the step of generating an identifier for a session of transactions with the client.
10. A method according to claim 9 wherein generation of the session identifier takes
 - 20 place prior to transformation of the client selection data.
11. A method according to claim 9 further comprising the step of using the session identifier to identify the XML session document.
- 25 12. A method according to claim 8 further comprising the steps of:
 - using the document to generate a further submission interface and sending the further submission interface to the client;
 - transforming further client selection data from the further submission interface using a set of rules used to generate the further submission interface;
 - 30 and incorporating the transformed further client selection data in the document.
13. A method according to claim 8 further comprising the step of using a client identifier to map transformed client selection data to the document in order to update the document with the transformed client selection data.